



## THE 1919 NEGRO PRESS CONVENTION PASSES INTO HISTORY

### WORK DONE, THE MOST CONSTRUCTIVE IN THE HISTORY OF ORGANIZATION

SIXTY-SEVEN PUBLICATIONS REPRESENTED. C. J. PERRY ELECTED PRESIDENT. NASHVILLE, A SCENE OF SOCIAL ACTIVITY DURING THE SESSION.

Nashville, Tenn., Feb. 8th. (Re-circulated News Service).—After deliberating three days the National Negro Press Association adjourned here last night. Representatives of the press were in attendance from various states in the Union, and the work done at the Association for the highest development of Negro journalism, has been regarded as perhaps the most constructive in the history of the organization. The Knights of the Quill, as they have been styled, deliberated upon matters of vital importance to the newspaper fraternity, covering every line of publication. The first session held Wednesday morning was purely executive and was presided over by Mr. Jos. L. Jones, the chairman of the Executive Committee from Cincinnati, Ohio. The report of the Executive Committee from the Atlantic City session was read, and the matter which they had recommended was taken up in detail, discussed and passed. Plans for the betterment of the organization, and particularly those publications affiliating with the Association, were fully outlined. The trend of every move made had in it the desire to help newspapers, regardless of whether they be political, educational, religious or secular. At the conclusion of the executive session the annual convention proper opened with President C. J. Perry, editor of The Philadelphia Tribune, Philadelphia, Pa., presiding. Thirty minutes for devotions were given, after which the committee reports from the Atlantic City session to the Nashville session were submitted. Upon roll call it developed that sixty-seven publications were represented at the opening session. The routine of business for consideration and for passage at this session was then read by Rev. J. H. Hamlett, editor of the Christian Index, Jackson, Tenn., the recording secretary. The items in their order considered and the disposition of the same were:

### INFLUENZA SCOURGE NO COMPARISON TO EPIDEMICS OF OTHER TIMES

The present world-scourge of influenza recalls the many pestilences which have swept over the earth from time immemorial. Perhaps the most fatal of these scourges was the "Black Death" of the early fourteenth century. Starting in Asia, it entered Europe by the Mediterranean, and swept off half the population of the Continent. The disease was brought to England by a trading vessel, the first case occurring in Dorsetshire. Within a few months over one-third of the English population had been wiped out. There were 100,000 deaths in London alone, and no less than 60,000 in Norwich. In Norway and Sweden over a third and in Germany five-sixths of the population died of the disease.

The awful destruction of life was followed in 1665 by the Great Plague of London, when there were over 70,000 fatal cases. The deaths were so numerous and the fear of taint so intense, that carts followed the streets after dark to collect the dead, which were hastily thrust through doors and windows into the roads. The bodies were buried in huge common pits. Every house containing a plague case had a blood-red cross painted on the door. Business was at a stand still, and the tolling of bells was heard continuously, day and night.

Where the disease would have stopped no one can tell, had it not been for the great fire in London, in 1666, which practically laid the metropolis in ashes. The lurking places and breeding corners of the disease were burnt out, and on the ruins of the old city was built a new, cleaner metropolis, which made a similar visitation impossible. Where dirt and darkness obtained in crowded towns, the plague still exacts its toll—millions of the population of India have been swept off by it. In 1859 there were 20,000 deaths in Bombay alone.

Less than thirty years ago England was swept by another epidemic—influenza—and there were 30,000 deaths within a few months. The disease numbered high and low among its victims, sparing neither royal palace nor humble cottage. The discovery of the new world by Columbus introduced many fatal epidemics into America. In Mexico smallpox destroyed no fewer than 3,500,000 of the people, while 6,000,000 of the North American Indians perished from the same disease. Consumption has laid a heavy toll on the natives of the West Indies—one epidemic having nearly exterminated the population. Out of

1. The work of the War Correspondent, Wm. Stevenson, who was endorsed and who went to France as a representative of the Association, brought forth favorable comment and received the endorsement of the Association.

2. Exchanging among newspapers was considered, and the Association went on record as favoring the even exchange; that is, where papers with the same price, this policy was to be continued, but where the papers were of different prices, the one whose was the lesser was to pay the difference.

3. A permanent exhibit of newspapers consisting of one year's publication bound into volume was endorsed, to be placed in the office of the Corresponding Secretary, this exhibit to be carried or sent to various expositions and fairs, as the occasion demanded.

4. A resolution calling upon newspapers over the country to assist each other in steering clear of the fake advertising agencies which send copies to newspapers and refuse to pay for the space used, was endorsed and passed.

5. The syndication of news of interest to all the people chronicling the latest happenings under the reciprocal news was given a thorough endorsement, and the papers urged to the practice.

6. A plan by which the annual convention to be held each February in Nashville might be more largely attended, was submitted and the members of the Association agreed to give space and publicity to the happenings of the Association to the end of increasing the interest in the organization among the newspaper fraternity.

7. Two new badges designed to be submitted by the chairman of the Executive Committee were ordered for the Association. The first badge will designate whether the

(Continued on page 6).

### This Means Good-Bye In All Languages

Chillicothe, O., Feb. 13.—Two Colored soldiers from the south, just back from France, in camp here were discussing the state of culture each thought he had reached. "I'm better educated than you are," said one.

"What makes you think so?" replied the other. "We done been raised on the same plantation and I knows jes' as much as you."

"Well, I bet I knows a word you don't know. It's an revoir and means goodby in France," said the first Negro.

"Humph!" said the other, derisively. "I knows a much better word den dat. It's influenza, an' it means goodby in all languages."

### WHO GETS GERMAN LUTHERAN MISSIONS IN BRITISH DOMINIONS?

What will become of the German Lutheran Missions in British Colonial possessions when peace is declared? The question is foremost in foreign mission circles here and abroad.

It involves fourteen German foreign mission societies. Their fields before the war were manned by 1,400 European workers, about 7,500 native assistants and numbered 541,000 native Christians. They are found in India, Africa and South Australia. Some of these societies are among the oldest and most successful Protestant Foreign Mission Societies in existence. Their annual budget before the war reached about two million dollars.

The British Coalition Cabinet has announced the platform that no German mission will be tolerated in any British possession. It is not known as yet how far it will go in this policy. Its execution will mean the exclusion of German interests in the foreign mission fields so far as the British Dominions are concerned.

During the war already these missions were severely handicapped. There was no opportunity to communicate with the home base. Funds soon gave out. Many of the missionaries were interned.

The situation was eased considerably by the fact that the American Lutheran Church stepped into the

breach. Some of the fields were taken over entirely. Others were taken over by men and money. Today the permanent disposition is up for consideration. Two policies are up for discussion. That they be disposed of either according to geographical or confessional contiguity. The former means that the nearest mission station, no matter of what faith, will obtain control, the latter that they be given in charge of those of their own faith.

The Lutherans of America are fighting any effort to dispose of them according to geographical contiguity. They claim that principle to be vicious and unworthy of democratic ideals that give to all the freedom of religion. They insist that to them belongs the first privilege and duty of providing for these fields.

At a recent conference of American foreign mission interests, when the question came up for heated discussion, Dr. L. B. Wolf, of Baltimore, Secretary of the Board of Foreign Missions of the United Lutheran Church, stated: "The Lutheran Church of America stands ready now to take over any Lutheran foreign mission field, anywhere in the world, that becomes vacant. It won't sit by idly to see others take them over."

Dr. John R. Mott, who has gone over to Paris, has been asked to represent the Lutheran interests in the situation before the Peace Conference if the question should come up. He has agreed to do so.

In order to be prepared and able, the National Lutheran Council is conducting a campaign for half a million dollars. When the foreign mission question was touched at the Lutheran congress held in Chicago recently to organize the campaign, the men were unanimous in stating that the Lutheran Church of America must be ready to step in anywhere in the world where fellow Lutherans are in difficulty. They proposed to raise a million instead of the half million suggested.

### HEAVY CASUALTIES FOR THE 92nd DIVISION

The total casualties of the Ninety-second, colored, Division has been estimated at 1,478. Among the killed were 6 officers. One officer and 31 enlisted men died from wounds received in action; 40 enlisted men died from disease; 23 enlisted men are listed as "missing"; 16 officers and 543 enlisted men were wounded; 39 officers and 661 enlisted men were gassed. The Division's number of gassed is usually large. A reason is, perhaps that the colored soldiers in the front-line trenches of this division were unusually daring in making raids into the enemy's territory.—The Crisis.

### DR. MOTON MEMBER OF ROOSEVELT PERMANENT MEMORIAL NATIONAL COMMITTEE

Tuskegee, Alabama, Feb. 8.—Upon invitation of Mr. Will H. Hays, Chairman of the Republican National Committee, Dr. Robert R. Moton, principal of Tuskegee Institute, has accepted membership on the Roosevelt Permanent Memorial National Committee. Dr. Moton also becomes Chairman of the Negro Sub-Committee of the Memorial National Committee.

Other members of the National Committee include members of Col. Roosevelt's Cabinet: Ex-President, Taft, Hon. Chas. E. Hughes, Senator Lodge, Cardinal Gibbons, President Lowell of Harvard University and other representative Americans.

The press dispatches state that this Committee is not a partisan effort, but rather a means through which the friends of Col Roosevelt may in a large evidence their appreciation of him and his service to the country.

### NEGRO HOTEL MEN ORGANIZE IN FT. WORTH

Tuesday night, the Colored hotel men met in the Gilton hall, corner East Ninth and Calhoun streets, and organized under the title of the Colored Progressive Association. Objects and aims, 1st, to formulate ways and means of increasing the efficiency of the waiters, 2nd, to improve the condition under which the Colored waiters work, viz: by ascertaining and keeping a record of the positions open to waiters; by keeping a record of the most availed waiters to fill such positions; by acquiring the hotel managers with the number and efficiency of these waiters before the war; by securing the consent of the hotel managers to give opportunity to these enrolled waiters, basing their possibilities for such opportunities upon merit; to provide for sick and the indigent waiters of the association. The following officers were elected: H. E. Jackson, president, L. Beltran, vice-president, O. D. Williams, secretary, C. Hobson, treasurer; Board of Government, Eugene Johnson, F. J. Clark, Eddie Hicks, Moses Comans, W. W. Edwards, Alonzo Bogan, Fred McCaskill, E. D. Berry. Addresses were delivered by Prof. G. N. T. Gray and Rev. R. S. Jenkins.

The waiters were read in their praise by Dr. A. E. Holt, the Presbyterian minister, who condemned lynching in his sermon last Sunday. By motion, commendatory resolutions were adopted in honor of Dr. Holt. The entire association went on record against all crime, standing firm for law and order with uprightness of citizenship. The association has applied for a state charter.

### AFTER THE WAR PROBLEMS IN THE SOUTH

AN INTERVIEW WITH MONROE N. WORK, OF TUSKEGEE INSTITUTE EDITOR OF "NEGRO YEAR BOOK"

By Wm. Anthony Aery. Booker T. Washington, who has been well named 'the builder of a civilization,' started the Tuskegee Negro Conference twenty-eight years ago. His successor, Dr. Robert R. Moton, and other loyal associates have continued and developed the Conference.

Today some of the strongest leaders of the South, both white and colored attend the Conference and gladly deliver from Tuskegee Institute their important messages for "better education, better health, better farms, and better homes"—to quote the well known slogan of the Negro Organization Society of Virginia which was founded by Dr. Moton while he was commandant at Hampton Institute.

Problems of Adjustment. On the eve of the recent Conference I asked Monroe N. Work, editor of the "Negro Book" and well known statistician, some searching questions dealing with the attitude of the South today toward the Negro, especially the returning Negro soldier.

That the most thoughtful Southern white leaders, no less than the most thoughtful colored leaders throughout the Nation, are thinking most seriously of the reabsorption of nearly 400,000 colored troops into our civilian population, the readjustments which the vast army of white soldiers will impose, the changed ideas of all men and women on account of service in war activities or of changes wrought indirectly by the Great War, is almost axiomatic after the war problems in the South.

Do White Men Understand? Do the most intelligent and fearless white people of the South really and fully understand what thoughts are surging through the minds of the progressive, conservative colored leaders?

Many white men and women, who know from first hand experience a great deal about the so-called plantation type of Negro, or the itinerant farm laborer, or the underpaid, poorly trained Negro cook or laundress, say they understand fully the present day Negro—understand fully even those Negroes who have had some special training, on account of special gifts and aptitudes, have become teachers, doctors, lawyers, or business men. Here opinions, when set against facts, prove unsatisfactory and unconvincing.

Even white men who have studied the so-called race problem with well trained minds and open hearts often find themselves in mystic mazes and must search for colored men of intelligence and honesty of speech to lead them back to the open roads which lead toward light and truth.

Trend Toward "Safe Farming." Prof. Work, who has so effectively, yet quietly and unobtrusively, presented to the Nation the facts concerning our horrible lynchings, for example, knows well the workings of men's minds on the vital question of the readjustments that are demanded during these coming days. Recently he said:

"The South, as well as all other parts of this country, is seriously attempting to get back on a peace basis. For the past three years the South has been farming on a war basis. Indeed, anything that any farmer, white or colored, had to sell, he could readily sell for cash. Money crops were numerous. This was in sharp contrast to the old system, under which cotton was usually the sole money crop."

"With the coming of peace, this unusual condition must change and the important question arises: 'What under peace conditions, will be the money crops?'"

"Bradford Knapp, Chief of the Office of Extension Work in the South, who is regarded by Southerners in particular as the leading agricultural leader of the South, gives the clue to the solution of the problem in his gospel of 'safe-farming'—the cultivation of home gardens; the increased supply of food and feed; the better management of farm labor; the diversification of crops; and then the production of cotton, tobacco, and other commonly recognized cash crops."

Negro Returning Soldiers. Professor Work understands clearly the attitude of large groups of people toward the returning Negro soldier. He said:

"The South is asking itself seriously these big questions: 'What will happen when the 300,000 Negro soldiers, who have left us, return again, after having had guns in their hands, after having heard about Democracy, after having fought and bled for their country? What will be their attitude when they come home? Will they take their same old positions in their communities? Will they continue to submit patiently to the treatment they received before the World War? What will these Negro soldiers really do?'"

"The Negro soldiers from the South have gone into the Army from the

most remote sections. They have seen something of the world. They, like their white companions in arms, are returning with a wider vision of life.

"On the other hand, they are not returning with a spirit of hostility, but they are coming to their homes with the desire to become, as civilians, better and more useful men and to help promote the welfare of their respective communities."

Reactionary Whites. "There are two schools of thought among the white people. One group says in substance: 'Let us forthwith put fear into the hearts of the colored men. Then they will take and keep the place that belongs to them.' Unfortunately there are altogether too many white people in this reactionary group."

The Changed South. "On the other hand, there is a smaller group of white people, especially in the South, that sees clearly and understands fully the present difficult situation. These good men and women know that the South has changed considerably since 1914. They know, too, that quite naturally, the Negro of today in the South is not just like the Negro before 1910. The Great War has modified many, many groups of people and created new and difficult problems."

"At the Birmingham meeting of the Southern Sociological Congress, held last Spring, Bishop Bratton of Mississippi, the newly elected president of the Congress, said to a large white and colored audience that the black men who had risked their lives for democracy could not be denied the democracy for which they had fought so bravely."

Constructive Negro Program. "The thoughtful colored people understand it is fraught. They are very wise of the situation—the dangers which the difficulties and the grave dangers that three things should be done:

"First, that racial friction should be prevented.

"Second, that the spirit of co-operation, the working together for common ends, which the war-work activities brought about between whites and Negroes be maintained and further increased."

"Third, that, in a much larger degree than ever before, the South be made safe for Negroes and that common justice be meted to them."

"Today a two-fold problem faces the people of influence in both races in the South: first, the handling of the problems of demobilization in such a way as to prevent racial friction or conflict; second, the maintenance of those harmonious relations that have already been established."

### He Stakes Croix de Guerre Against \$150; Loses It.

New York, Feb. 13.—A disconsolate Indian was among the passengers on the George Washington, which docked here last week, and the cause of his was a Chicago Colored soldier, whose name could not be learned. The Indian was Corp. Walter Snow of West Virginia, known as "Chief Little Dog."

He won the Croix de guerre in France, but on the ship he met the Chicago boy, and after he had lost all his money at a crap game that ensued, he staked his Croix de guerre against \$150 and the Chicago soldier got that too.

### S. A. Young, Dallas Man, Predicts The Return of Southern Negroes

Having a job on my hands these days to convince the boys from the south that the south is really the best place for the masses of our people. While there are much prejudice. Along certain lines in the South there is equally as much prejudice in the north along certain other lines. The masses of northern white people make their living either in the factories or in the stores or on the railroads. Just let a gentleman of color attempt to get a job in either one of the above occupations other than a common laborer he will find at once no Negroes are wanted. A great many of our people are foolish enough to want to stay north after the war I am telling all to return to their former homes after they demobilized. Men coming from over seas are to be given former jobs in the factories, this means that thousands of our people will be thrown out of work. You may look for an early exodus of Negroes back to the south. I shall still remain in the "Y" work with headquarters in Washington.

### GUTHRIE.

Guthrie, Okla., Feb. 13.—The Reception given by Mr. and Mrs. James A. Hawk of 424 N. Broad St. the evening of Feb. 8 in honor of their son, Sgt. and Mrs. C. Milton, his bride, was one of the most social history of this city.

Many useful and valuable articles were presented. So varied were the gifts it seemed as if each purchaser had consulted the other before a selection was made.

Out of town guests spending the week-end with Sgt. C. Milton Hawk and bride, also present at the reception was Mrs. Anita Patti Brown of Chicago, Ill., and Mrs. Harvey, mother of Attorney S. W. Cary and wife, who live in Memphis, Tenn. The evening was hilariously and jubilantly spent and a dainty luncheon of two-courses was served to the per-

### MID-WINTER GRADUATING EXERCISES OF DALLAS COLORED HIGH SCHOOL

EIGHTEEN COMPLETE THE COURSE. DR. E. ARLINGTON WILSON, DELIVERS THE ANNUAL ADDRESS. THE MUSIC A FEATURE.

On Monday night, the third instant, as we sat in the auditorium of the municipal building, witnessing the very creditable mid-winter graduating exercise, the history of our people for three centuries passed in a vivid panoramic view. As we looked upon the intelligent countenances of the young men and young women, composing the class, whose physical features, the contour, the lines of the visage that tell the story of the future, were so evident that one could run and read the inevitable success written in the volume of usefulness.

In the grand panoramic vision, we saw the race that was born in a day, a half century ago; born in poverty, coming forth from legal servitude to a master whose edict is remorseless, the master of bitter necessity; born in a day, without a foot of land, without a dollar, with "No where to lay his head"; born in a day without schools, without education,

children crawling where civilized nations fear to walk; born in a day without a church, without the chimneys of its heavenly music to call them to prayer and devotion.

But the panoramic views change in the brief period of fifty years. What a change in the views, as we see grand procession culminating in the scenes on the canvass, in the advancement of the rising generation. It seems like a miracle, it reads like a romance with some of the details containing a grain of real life, and the other wholly imaginable, and fictitious, born in a day, but grows to youth and vigor in a half century, coming into the possession of twenty million acres of land; born in a day without teachers, without preachers, without doctors; born in a day without that experience so necessary for a free people, but what has the infant race wrought?

(Continued on page 6).

fect delight of the many who were present.

### DEATH SENTENCE FOR NEGRO OFFICERS COMMUTED.

Washington, D. C., Feb. 13.—Four commissioned officers were tried in France for violation of article 75 of the war code. The men are Captain Daniel Smith, First Lieut. Horace Robert Crawford, Robert W. Cheers and Second Lieut. Robert E. Johnson. The sentence of the court was death by musketry. The verdict, however, was not unanimous, one-third of the members dissenting. It was finally decided to recommend commutation of the sentence to ten and five years imprisonment to certain of the officers. The men are attached to the 3rd Battalion, Company I, 368th Infantry.

### CAMERON.

Cameron, Texas, Feb. 13.—The big educational mass meeting conducted by Rev. D. C. Williams of Waco at Lights Chapel Baptist church on Monday night, Feb. 13, was quite a success. The principal speakers were as follows: Rev. D. C. Williams, Mrs. R. E. Hale, Rev. W. Johnson, Prof. A. R. Jefferson, Dr. A. S. Epperson and Prof. L. H. Kidd as a result of the meeting the Colored citizens have planned to raise \$150.00 by March 1. The board will donate \$15.00 making \$300.00 to be used for the improvement of the Industrial department.

Rev. D. C. Williams closed his series of meeting here at Mt. Zion on Wednesday night, Feb. 5. He left for home last Thursday; but his work still lives here in the hearts of our people. The teachers and parents of the Cameron High school met at the school building on Tuesday, Feb. 4, and organized the Parent-Teachers Association. Mrs. Cora Thomas, president; Mrs. Anna O. Hall, vice; Mrs. C. E. Kelley, secretary; Mrs. Lottie Hill, assistant secretary; Mr. Jesse Thompson, treasurer. The association meets on every Tuesday at 3 p. m. Rev. G. Betts of Caldwell, was in our city Saturday. Rev. Harris of Austin was here Saturday on business. Miss J. A. Stout, was returned from Bryan last week. Mrs. Francis Hall, who has been ill for some time has regained her health. Rev. E. L. Johnson is pushing his work for Central Texas College. Mr. Roosevelt Allen returned from Oklahoma City, Sunday. He will spend a few weeks here with his parents. Miss Katie Fulton, the Industrial Teacher for Milam County spent a few days here last week and reports her work doing nicely. Mrs. H. G. Reed of Milano and the Misses McDowes were here Saturday on business.

Prof. C. W. Rice of Austin delivered a able address to our people at Bethel A. M. E. church last Friday night.

### AMARILLO.

Amarillo, Texas, Feb. 13.—The Mt. Zion Baptist church is carrying on a revival which will last 10 days. The banquet given in honor of Rev. J. A. Stout, was largely attended. Half of the crowd was composed with the best class of white people. He being one of the most learned race man that had even been before the public in this county. Mother Ealy has returned from Camp Travis after spending two weeks and accompanied her son, Sam Ealy home, who was in that camp. Mr. John Gilson has returned from the eastern part of the state, where he has been visiting relatives. Mr. Walter Scott is very sick with throat trouble. Miss Ruth Elliott had an operation on her ear.

### COLORED WOMEN GOOD OVERSEAS "Y" SECRETARIES

A COMPLETE UNIT TO BE SENT AT THE REQUEST OF THE PARIS OFFICE.

Two Colored women have made such good records as overseas secretaries of the Y. M. C. A., that a complete unit is soon to be sent over for canteen service. The Paris office has specially requested this unit and they are being selected by Dr. Jesse E. Moorland, Colored secretary in Washington. Only women representing the very highest types of the Negro race, and ones particularly fitted for this branch of service will be chosen.

The first Colored woman to sail wearing the "Y" uniform was Mrs. Helen Curtis, 208 134th St., New York in May last year. For a number of years she had been a member of the Committee of Management for the Colored Women's Branch of the Y. M. C. A. and she had assisted at the Camp Upton Hostess House. Her late husband, James L. Curtis, was Minister Resident and Consul-General for the United States to Liberia. Mrs. Curtis lived in Monrovia, Liberia, until her husband's death there. She had also lived in France, where she studied domestic art for two years. She speaks French fluently.

Mrs. Curtis's appointment proved such a success that another Colored secretary was sent over the following month: Mrs. Addie Hunton, 575 Graham Avenue, Brooklyn, N. Y. Her husband was for many years before his death Senior Secretary of the International Committee of the Y. M. C. A. Colored Men's Department, and Mrs. Hunton's own work had always been with the Y. M. C. A. efr education had been excellent. For three semesters she studied in the University of Strasbourg, and took graduate courses in English and in political science at New York City College.

Dr. Moorland has a report from a returned secretary telling what really splendid work these Colored women have done. "They made the first ice cream and cake the troops had had, and the men were very enthusiastic about them."

### CORSICANA.

Corsicana, Texas, Feb. 13.—At Bethel A. M. E. church Sunday morning, pastor McDade continued his series of sermons on the church. Miss Anita Patti Brown will be at the A. M. E. church, Feb. 27. Mr. Jake Watts and Mr. Tom Smith are sick. Mr. Bennie Lowe was buried Friday after a long illness. Mr. John Beaver, Feb. 5, Ross Lodge K. of P. elected new officers for the ensuing year. The N. A. A. C. P. held Roosevelt Memorial services Sunday evening at A. M. E. church at 3:30 and many persons spoke on the occasion. Lieut. Jones was present with a squad of returned soldiers dressed in uniform.

Booker T. Washington school is delirious with its nice photograph machine and records. Parents and friends are invited to call on us Friday evenings. Mr. Frank Adams has received a telegram from Kansas Sanitarium stating Mrs. Adams had been successfully operated on and is doing well.